

In the Claims

Please replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application with the following list of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A directional distributed coupler comprising:
a first conductive line carrying a main signal between two end terminals;
a second conductive line coupled to the first one and between two terminals of which flows a sampled signal, proportional to the main signal, and
~~two capacitors respectively connecting the two terminals of each of the lines.~~
a first capacitor coupled to the two end terminals of the first conductive line and a second capacitor coupled to the two terminals of the second conductive line.
2. (Previously Presented) The coupler of claim 1, wherein the lines have a same length.
3. (Previously Presented) The coupler of claim 1, wherein the capacitors have same values.
4. (Previously Presented) The coupler of claim 1, wherein the lines are sized in $\lambda/4$ for a central band frequency greater than the frequency band for which the coupler is intended.
5. (Previously Presented) The coupler of claim 1, wherein each conductive line comprises at least two parallel sections between its end terminals, the sections of the two lines being interleaved.
6. (Currently Amended) The coupler of claim 5, wherein at least one ~~[[the]]~~ capacitor electrode~~[[s]]~~ is ~~[[are]]~~ formed in a same ~~[[two]]~~ metallization level~~[[s]]~~ as those in
~~which are formed the~~ first conductive line~~[[s]]~~.
7. (Currently Amended) The coupler of claim 1, wherein the first capacitor~~[[s]]~~

[[have]] has a value[[s]] ranging between 0.1 and 10 pF, the central frequency of the coupler ranging between a few tens of MHz and a few tens of GHz.

8. (New) A directional distributed coupler, comprising:
a first conductive line that carries a signal from a first terminal to a second terminal;
a first capacitor connected to the first terminal and the second terminal; and
a second conductive line coupled to the first conductive line, the second conductive line having a third terminal and a fourth terminal.
9. (New) The directional distributed coupler of claim 8, further comprising a second capacitor connected to the third terminal and the fourth terminal.
10. (New) The directional distributed coupler of claim 8, wherein the second conductive line is connected to a control circuit, the control circuit being connected to an amplifier that supplies the signal to the first terminal.
11. (New) The directional distributed coupler of claim 8, wherein at least one capacitor electrode is formed in a same metallization level in which is formed the first conductive line.
12. (New) The directional distributed coupler of claim 9, wherein the first capacitor and the second capacitor have values between 0.1 and 10 pF.
13. (New) The directional distributed coupler of claim 8, wherein the distributed coupler is a directional coupler.
14. (New) The directional distributed coupler of claim 8, wherein a central frequency of the coupler is between a few tens of MHz and a few tens of GHz.
15. (New) The directional distributed coupler of claim 8, wherein the second terminal is coupled to an antenna.

16. (New) A directional distributed coupler, comprising:
 - a first conductive line that carries a signal from a first terminal to a second terminal;
 - a first capacitor connected to the first terminal and the second terminal; and
 - a second conductive line coupled to the first conductive line.
17. (New) The directional distributed coupler of claim 16, wherein the second conductive line has a third terminal and a fourth terminal, and further comprising:
 - a second capacitor connected to the third terminal and the fourth terminal.
18. (New) The directional distributed coupler of claim 16, further comprising:
 - a control circuit connected to an amplifier that supplies the signal to the first terminal.
19. (New) The directional distributed coupler of claim 18, wherein the control circuit is configured to turn off the amplifier when a voltage of the second conductive line exceeds a threshold.
20. (New) The directional distributed coupler of claim 16, wherein the distributed coupler is a directional coupler.